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*courage is contagious*

## Viewing cable 05PORTAUPRINCE1597, CIVPOL COMMISSIONER EXPRESSES FRUSTRATION WITH HNP COOPERATION

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

### Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

### Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#05PORTAUPRINCE1597**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
<a href="#">05PORTAUPRINCE1597</a>	2005-06-07 18:38	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Port Au Prince

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.haiti-liberte.com/archives/volume4-52/La%20nomination%20de%20Gousse.asp>  
<http://www.haiti-liberte.com/archives/volume4-52/Bernard%20Gousse.asp>

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PORT AU PRINCE 001597

SIPDIS

WHA/EX PLEASE PASS USOAS  
SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD  
DEPT FOR DS/IP/WHA  
DS/DSS/ITA  
DSERCC

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/25/2014  
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [ASEC](#) [HA](#)  
SUBJECT: CIVPOL COMMISSIONER EXPRESSES FRUSTRATION WITH HNP COOPERATION

Classified By: DCM Douglas Griffiths, reasons 1.4 (B) and (D)

**¶1.** (C) Summary: CIVPOL Commissioner Dave Beer told PolOff and Embassy Police Advisor on June 2 that he had abandoned attempts at a "unified command" of MINUSTAH military and CIVPOL forces and had freed his Formed Police Units (FPUs) from static positions to focus on roving patrols. Beer also complained of continued difficulties in joint CIVPOL-Haitian National Police (HNP) deployment but expressed hope that the launch of the Model Station Program (MSP) in June would improve cooperation. Embassy Police Advisor summarized upcoming U.S.-funded HNP reform projects and requested that Beer assign a handful of CIVPOL officers to liaise with the Embassy throughout their implementation. Beer confirmed that he requested two additional FPUs and a total of 832 new (non-FPU) CIVPOL. Beer said that neither he nor Deputy Commissioner Rene Senechal would be renewing their contracts. End summary.

**¶2.** (C) Beer, clearly frustrated and fatigued, said that he was moving to redeploy his FPUs away from static checkpoint positions under MINUSTAH "unified command" and focus them instead on roving patrols. Beer also announced the formation of a tactical team of 40 Jordanian officers located near the airport that will be able to respond quickly to incidents in the capital. He said HNP Director General Leon Charles had identified 12 specially vetted SWAT members to work with the new tactical unit. The commissioner confirmed that he was

requesting two additional FPUs (for a total of eight) that would allow him to have four units dedicated to Port-au-Prince (one unit each based in Delmas, Fort National, Airport and one swing unit), as well as current deployments in Cap Haitien, Hinche, Les Cayes, and Gonaives. But he admitted that he was unlikely to get more than 500 of the total 832 officers he requested and that rotations might actually leave CIVPOL with fewer people this fall than are here at present.

**13.** (C) Beer explained that his plans for HNP deployment along with CIVPOL have been stymied for months. He said CIVPOL had drafted a detailed plan in March for HNP deployment by station and rank up through 2006. Despite professed agreement by the HNP, however, the plan has not been put into practice. He pointed to a few successes in joint operations (including a recent dragnet on May 29 that netted several arrests of alleged kidnappers, including one HNP collaborator), but said it remains difficult to get the HNP to conduct regular joint patrols with CIVPOL. Beer said, for example, that he has insisted that the Crowd Control Unit (CIMO) not be deployed without a CIVPOL escort, but the agreement is often ignored in practice. There are still incidents, Beer claimed, where Minister of Justice Gousse sends CIMO out on his direct order, circumventing Beer's controls. Beer said the May 22 incident in Bel Aire in which a SWAT officer was killed was an example of Gousse's mischief.

**14.** (C) Beer expressed cautious hope that the launch of the Model Station Program (MSP) and the CIVPOL-HNP Joint Command Center (JCC) might help jump-start cooperation with the HNP. CIVPOL had originally spent four months assembling a JCC with the Departmental Director of the West Department (DDO), but the DDO had suddenly scuttled the project and CIVPOL was now rebuilding from scratch. Likewise, a special MINUSTAH-HNP Joint Anti-Kidnapping Unit created recently and based at the DCPJ has already foundered, Beer said. He claimed that after a few days the HNP officers assigned stopped coming and stopped sharing information. The program has become, in effect, a "Parallel Anti-Kidnapping Unit" in which CIVPOL and HNP conduct investigations side-by-side but share little information. Beer suggested that corruption, even in these special units, was endemic and that Charles was unwilling or unable to discipline or arrest officers that everybody knows are corrupt and colluding with the kidnappers. Beer proposed the establishment of an Anti-Corruption unit administered by CIVPOL and a handful of polygraphed HNP that would interview and vet every HNP officer from the top down, expelling any officer that lied.

**15.** (C) Embassy Police Advisor outlined U.S.-funded programs for FY05 totaling \$14 million and requested CIVPOL assistance in implementing the array of projects.

-- In-service training: The U.S. is spending \$1.5m to retrain 1200 current HNP officers. Beer reported that CIVPOL had already provided five-day "field training" sessions for roughly 150 officers and offered to appoint a liaison to assist the Embassy in creating the curriculum and implementing the program.

-- Forensics: Embassy Police Advisor requested CIVPOL appoint an expert to oversee the \$400,000 forensics program. Beer welcomed the proposal and said he could contribute further money to build a forensics unit. Police Advisor advised Beer that the ballistic test facilities were already complete and that Florida law enforcement groups were interested in assisting with the unit.

-- Model Station Program: Initial MSP sites funded by FY04 funds in Fort National, lower Delmas and Bicentenaire (downtown Port-au-Prince) were almost complete. The U.S. will fund \$1.2m in FY05 for the MSP as well as another Police Advisor position to focus on collocation and deployment. Beer agreed to appoint a CIVPOL liaison dedicated to assisting the U.S. in implementing the MSP.

-- Vetting: Embassy Police Advisor reminded Beer that the U.S. was phasing out its funding for the OAS administered vetting program and asked Beer to assign a manager to begin coordinating the handover of the program to CIVPOL over the next six months.

Beer also told Embassy Police Advisor that CIVPOL had identified a "Donor Coordinator" for all HNP assistance that would work with post for the implementation of U.S.-funded HNP reform projects.

**16.** (C) Comment: We have been equally frustrated with the HNP's inability to deliver on even the simplest of agreements. Although Leon Charles remains the best among an uncertain list of alternatives, he is not well served by his deputies and is not entirely in control of the police force. In addition, the HNP lacks the organizational discipline to put any plan into practice. We have enjoyed excellent relations with Beer and respect both his candor and his

vision. We hope that by institutionalizing a handful of CIVPOL liaison positions to our programs, our cooperation for police reform will survive any uncertainty surrounding his replacement. End comment.

FOLEY